



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20580

Office of the Director
Bureau of Competition

JUN 27 2003

Slidell Memorial Hospital
C/O Neil Imus, Esq.
Vinson & Elkins, LLP
Willard Office Building
1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004


Re: Proposed Acquisition of Slidell Memorial Hospital by Tenet Healthcare Corporation,
FTC File No. 031-0027

Dear Mr. Imus:

The Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition has been conducting a nonpublic investigation to determine whether the acquisition by Tenet Healthcare Corporation ("Tenet") of Slidell Memorial Hospital ("SMH") may violate Section 7 of the Clayton Act or Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

In light of Tenet and SMH's stated intent to abandon the transaction, no additional action is warranted by the Commission. Accordingly, pursuant to authority delegated by the Commission, 49 Fed. Reg. 6171 (1984), the investigation has been closed. This action is not to be construed as a determination that a violation has not occurred, just as the pendency of an investigation should not be construed as a determination that a violation has occurred. The Commission reserves the right to take such further action as the public interest may require.

Sincerely yours,


Joseph J. Simons
Director